

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful review of the application. Claims 1-80 are the pending claims. New claims 63-80 have been added.

Allowability of Independent Claims 1, 24, 39, and 51

Claims 1, 24, 39, and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by EMC 39-12 User's Guide [hereinafter EMC].

Claims 1, 24, 39, and 51 have been amended to include a requirement of user-selection of a single port pair to monitor. Applicant respectfully submits that the EMC reference does not show a single, user-selectable port pair to monitor. As shown in Figure 4-1 of the EMC reference, each port pair on the EMC device has its own corresponding set of LED's that constantly monitors activity for that specific port pair. Hence, the EMC reference shows a single monitor that displays the status of all port pairs. The user of the EMC device has no control over which port pair is monitored; multiple, preset port-pairs are monitored at once. Claims 1, 24, 39, and 51 as now modified include a requirement that one port pair is chosen to be monitored.

Applicant reserves the right to make additional arguments regarding the patentability of these claims as may be necessary.

Allowability of Amended Dependent Claims

Claims 3, 18, and 25 are amended in the current response. Claim 3 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by EMC.

Claim 3 has been modified to correct a typographical error in the original application. Claim 3 refers to independent claim 1, which is directed toward a converter. Claim 3 is therefore amended to be directed to the same subject. The applicant believes that this modification should not affect the interpretation or allowability of the claim. The applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3, because it now is patentably distinct by virtue of its dependence upon claim 1.

Claim 18 has been modified to correct a typographical error in the original application. Claim 18 now refers to independent claim 1 rather than dependent claim 6. The applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 18, because it is patentably distinct by virtue of its dependence upon claim 1.

Claim 25 has also been modified to correct a typographical error in the original application. Claim 25 now refers to independent claim 24 rather than dependent claim 16. The applicant believes that the allowability of the claim is unaffected by this change. Claim 25 is patentably distinct because of its dependence upon claim 24.

Applicant reserves the right to make additional arguments regarding the patentability of these claims as may be necessary.

Allowability of the Remaining Dependent Claims

The remaining original dependent claims, 2, 4-23, 26-38, 40-50, 52-62 were rejected under either 35 U.S.C. §102(b), 35 U.S.C. §103(a), or because they were allowable but dependent on rejected claims. The Applicant asserts that the dependent claims are patentably distinct by virtue of their dependence upon the allowable independent claims. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of the dependent claims.

Applicant reserves the right to make additional arguments regarding the patentability of these claims as may be necessary.

Allowability of New Claims 63-80

Claims 63-80 are rewritten forms of original claims 13-17, 27-29, 38, 41-45, and 59-62. Claim 63 is prior claim 13 written in independent form. Claim 64 is prior claim 14 written in independent form. Claims 65-67 are prior claims 15-17 dependent directly or indirectly on prior claim 14. Claims 68-70 are prior claims 27-29, respectively, written in independent form. Claim 71 is prior claim 38 written in independent form. Claims 72-75 are prior claims 41-44, respectively, written in independent form. Claim 76 is prior dependent claim 45. Claims 77-79 are prior claims 59-61, respectively, written in independent form. Claim 80 is prior dependent claim 62.

These claims were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were considered allowable subject matter. Because these claims are now rewritten independently from the rejected base claims, the Applicant respectfully requests allowance of these claims.

Conclusion

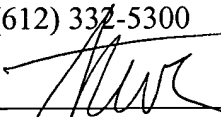
Claims 1-80 remain pending in the application. These claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth above. This amendment is believed to be responsive to all points raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request prompt reconsideration, allowance, and passage of the application to issue. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number below to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

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